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MARRIAGES OF DISEASED PERSONS.

JUDICIAL DECISIONS ANNULLING MARRIAGES BECAUSE ONE OF THE PARTIES WAS SUFFERING FROM A COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AT THE TIME OF THE MARRIAGE.

The Supreme Court of the State of New York has held that a marriage might be annulled because one party concealed from the other the fact that he was suffering from tuberculosis. (See Public Health Reports, Oct. 22, 1915, pages 3117 and 3175.)

The Supreme Court of Wisconsin has decided that a marriage should be annulled because one party was infected with gonorrhea at the time of the marriage. The essential part of the opinion in the latter case is published on page 3847 of this issue of the Public Health Reports.

VACCINATION.

THE POSSIBLE CONVENIENCE OF USING COMBINED VACCINES WHERE PROTECTION AGAINST A NUMBER OF DISEASES IS DESIRED.

For persons contemplating visiting localities in which epidemics are present, or countries where certain diseases are endemic, or sanitary supervision is questionable, protection against a number of diseases is frequently to be desired. Experience with vaccines has demonstrated the possibility of conferring a degree of immunity to a considerable number of diseases.

A recent report by Dr. Aldo Castellani suggests that protection against a number of diseases may be conferred upon an individual by the use of several vaccines at one time without any greater inconvenience than is caused ordinarily in being vaccinated to secure protection against one disease. Dr. Castellani's article was published in the "Report of the Advisory Committee for the Tropical Diseases Research Fund for the year 1914, * * * London," just issued. The following is quoted from the conclusions:

I. The preparation of combined vaccines is based, I think I may venture to say, on the experimental work I carried out in 1901–2 in Bonn, in Prof. Kruse's Institute (Zeit. für Hygiene, 1902–3), when I demonstrated that in inoculating an animal with two or three species of bacteria, provided a sufficient minimum quantity was given, agglutinins and immune bodies for all the germs were elaborated, the amount of agglu-

tinins and immune bodies elaborated for each germ being nearly the same as in animals respectively inoculated with only one species.

II. I have prepared and used in man the following vaccines:

(1) Typhoid—paratyphoid A—paratyphoid B.

(2) Typhoid—Malta fever.

(3) Typhoid—paratyphoid A—paratyphoid B—Malta fever.

(4) Typhoid—paratyphoid A—paratyphoid B—B. asiaticus—B. columbensis.

(5) Typhoid—paratyphoid A—paratyphoid B—B. asiaticus—B. columbensis—Malta fever.

(6) Typhoid—paratyphoid A—paratyphoid B—dysentery Kruse-Shiga—dysentery Flexner—dysentery Hys Y—dysentery Flexner-like No. 1—dysentery Flexner-like No. 2.

(7) Cholera—plague.

(8) Cholera—plague—typhoid—paratyphoid A—paratyphoid B.

(9) Cholera—plague—typhoid—paratyphoid A—paratyphoid B—Malta fever.

III. The inoculation in man of the above combined vaccines is harmless. The reaction is not severe, with the exception of those containing plague germs, such as the "cholera-plague" and "cholera-plague-typhoid-paratyphoid A-paratyphoid B" vaccines, when the reaction is severe, though apparently rather less so than after Haffkine's simple plague vaccine.

IV. The combined vaccines I am now using consist of carbolized emulsions of agar cultures in normal salt solution without heating. These emulsions seem to give a less painful local reaction than broth cultures killed by heat. The presence of 0.5 per cent carbolic acid is sufficient to kill the germs. The "typhoid-paratyphoid A-paratyphoid B" vaccine is, however, also prepared by heating broth cultures at 53.

V. The individuals inoculated with the above-mentioned combined vaccines generally produce agglutinins for each species of bacteria, and the amount for each species is not much less than control individuals inoculated with simple "one disease" vaccines. The only exception, though only to a certain extent, seems to have been in the case of typhoid-dysentery vaccines.

VI. Combined vaccines, when efficient, are of practical advantage, saving a great deal of time and rendering possible a contemporaneous vaccination for several different maladies.

PUBLIC HEALTH ADMINISTRATION IN NEVADA.

By CARROLL FOX, Surgeon, United States Public Health Service.

The following report contains the results of a study of public health administration and organization in the State of Nevada, carried on through a period of six weeks.

During the course of the investigation eight towns, representing seven counties, were visited, namely, Reno and Sparks in Washoe County; Elko, Elko County; Winnemucca, Humboldt County; Goldfield, Esmeralda County; Tonopah, Nye County; Carson City, Ormsby County; and Virginia City, Storey County.

Nevada is a State having an area of 109,821 square miles. Much of this vast territory is semiarid except in small areas, here and there, which have been brought under irrigation.